

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /150 W

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P R 200500Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0169

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON RVN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 21265

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR VS

SUBJ: RELEASE OF HOMER ELM AND TWO OTHER VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES

PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR MARTIN

HEREWITH REPEAT OF AMCONSUL CAN THO MESSAGE 0889 ACTION

AMEMBASSY SAIGON QUOTE

1. EWO REPORTS THAT PRG HELD TWO CEREMONIES MARKING HIS RELEASE:

ONE AT THE "CADRE CAMP" WHERE HE AND THE OTHER PRISONERS WERE

HELD SINCE 31 OCTOBER AND THE SECOND AT THE RELEASE SITE. (WE

HAVE NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DETERMINE WITH ANY CERTAINTY

JUST WHERE EITHER THE "CADRE CAMP" OR RELEASE SITE ARE LOCATED.)

BOTH CEREMONIES WERE FILMED. AT THE SECOND CEREMONY EACH

PRISONER WAS GIVEN A "RELEASE STATEMENT" (WHICH WAS TAKEN

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CUSTODY OF BY THE VIETNAMESE NATIONAL POLICE).

2. ACCORDING TO ELM THE "RELEASE STATEMENTS" PROVIDED THE VC RATIONALE FOR HIS CAPTURE AND DETENTION:

(A) HE WAS TRAVELLING IN A PRG-CONTROLLED AREA WITHOUT PERMISSION.

(B) HIS VEHICLE DID NOT HAVE LIGHTS ON ITS ROOF TO INDICATE THAT IT WAS A CIVILIAN VEHICLE AND NOT A MILITARY VEHICLE.

(C) BECAUSE ELM IS AN EX-US SERVICEMAN (AIR FORCE) IT REQUIRED EXTRA TIME TO DETERMINE HIS BONA FIDES.

3. ELM SAID THAT HE AND THE OTHERS WERE ORIGINALLY TOLD THREE OR FOUR DAYS AGO THAT THEY WOULD BE RELEASED ON THE 18TH AND THAT BOATS WERE TO COME TO THE CAMP ON THE 16TH. THE BOATS DID NOT APPEAR AND THE THREE WERE RELEASED ONE DAY LATER THAN PLANNED. THE PRG REPRESENTATIVES TOLD ELM THAT THEY WOULD NOTIFY JMC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GROUP'S IMPENDING RELEASE.

4. ELM SIGNED SEVERAL STATEMENTS DURING HIS CAPTIVITY. HE SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW HE WAS TREATED WELL BY HIS CAPTORS. HE WAS TIED OR CHAINED AT NIGHT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL, POW RETURN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731213/aaaaajex.tel
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Release Event: n/a
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Subject: RELEASE OF HOMER ELM AND TWO OTHER VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR MARTIN
TAGS: MARR, VS, PA & E, (ELM, HOMER)
To: STATE PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005